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(54) **METHOD OF TREATING SPINAL CORD INJURY COMPRISING ADMINISTERING METAL CHELATORS TO THE UPPER ONE-THIRD OF THE NASAL CAVITY**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

None

See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods for treating the animal central nervous system against the effects of spinal cord injury, including associated cognitive, behavioral and physical impairments. Effective amounts of therapeutic agents are administered to the upper third of the patient's nasal cavity to bypass the blood-brain barrier and access the central nervous system directly to avoid unwanted and potentially lethal side effects. Therapeutic agents include those substances that interact with iron and/or copper such as iron chelators, copper chelators, and antioxidants. A particular example of a therapeutic agent is the iron chelator deferoxamine (DFO).